

Keynote: Setting the Stage – Why and How Does Diversity Matter?



Helena Morrissey

Helena is one of the best known women in the UK financial services industry. She is Chair of the Investment Association whose members manage more than £5 trillion and serves on the Financial Services Trade and Investment Board, an appointment by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Helena also chairs The Diversity Project, a cross-business initiative aimed at improving diversity across all dimensions within the UK investment and savings profession. Helena was CEO of Newton Investment Management for fifteen years before stepping down last August and has recently announced that she will be joining Legal and General IM. In her new role she will be focusing on personal investors, aiming to make investing more engaging and accessible. In the meantime, she is writing a book, “A Good Time to be a Girl: How to Succeed in a Changing World” that will be published by Harper Collins.

In 2010, Helena founded the 30% Club, a business-led campaign to improve gender balance in the boardroom. The proportion of female directors on UK listed company boards has more than doubled and there are now eleven 30% Clubs throughout the world.

Helena was awarded the Commander of the British Empire in the Queen’s 2012 New Year’s Honours list and has been named one of Fortune magazine’s World’s 50 Greatest Leaders. She has just been named as the Financial Times’ “2017 Person of the Year” at the paper’s Boldness in Business annual awards.

Helena is a Cambridge University Philosophy graduate. She is married to a Buddhist priest and they have nine children.

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Harry Keiley ([Introduction](#))

Investment Committee Chair, CalSTRS

Harry M. Keiley is a high school teacher with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, and was elected to the Teachers' Retirement Board in 2007. He has served as the president of Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association and chair of the California Teachers Association Political Involvement Committee.